



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION DECISIONS RELATIVE TO FIRE PROTECTION¹

By J. N. CHESTER

The accompanying tabulation of fire protection charges made against municipalities by different public utility commissions will, no doubt, prove interesting to many managers of private water companies, especially those who have in the past wondered whether or not they are receiving from the municipality the full amount to which they are entitled, and to others who realize they must have an increase in rates. To them it may serve as a partial guide to that portion of the burden that should be allocated to fire service.

It will be noticed that the charges are mainly from Wisconsin, there being but one from Indiana and one from Illinois, but it is interesting to see that these two states have followed close in the footsteps of Wisconsin.

It would probably be better, however, to those contemplating activities in rate regulation, to more thoroughly study Pennsylvania decisions, and to assist them the author has prepared the tabulation on page 322 of five different decisions that have been rendered by the Pennsylvania Commission, setting out and featuring only those items incident to the fire protection charges.

The author's firm has for its own use prepared from these tabulations curves from which it can forecast beyond the limits. With more time to tabulate additional decisions, it is hoped to make these curves of great value and assistance in the work of dividing the gross burden between the municipality and the domestic, commercial, and industrial consumers.

¹ Read before the Pennsylvania Water Works Association on October 18, 1918, and printed in the Journal of the American Water Works Association in order that it may be available for the use of the latter Association's members.

Fire protection charges made against the municipality by Public Utility Commissions

| DATE OF DECISION | CITY | STATE | POPULATION, 1910 | PER CENT OF WATER WORKS CHARGED TO FIRE SERVICE | VALUE OF PLANT | GROSS REVENUE | REVENUE FROM FIRE | PER CENT OF GROSS REVENUE FROM FIRE |
|------------------|-----------------------|-------|---------------------|---|-------------------|------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 1913 | Elkhart Lake..... | Wis. | 950 | 59.0 | \$8,425 | | \$ 600 | |
| 1912 | Sharon..... | Wis. | 1,100 | *52.0 | | | 1,000 | |
| 1914 | Waterloo..... | Wis. | 1,106 | 60.0 | 30,500 | | 1,500 | |
| 1913 | Fennimore..... | Wis. | 1,275 | *55.0 | 23,046 | | 1,500 | |
| 1914 | Elroy..... | Wis. | 1,450 | 47.4 | 32,215 | | 1,500 | |
| 1915 | Barron..... | Wis. | 1,674 | | 35,000 | | 1,392 | |
| 1912 | Evansville..... | Wis. | 1,963 | 64.1 | 37,122 | \$4,813 | 2,500 | 52.0 |
| 1914 | Vaughn..... | Wis. | | 53.0 | 38,000 | 6,860 | 2,800 | 40.8 |
| 1917 | River Falls..... | Wis. | 2,300 | 54.6 | 56,000 | *9,429 | *3,240 | 34.4 |
| 1913 | Delevan..... | Wis. | 2,450 | 64.0 | 42,291 | 6,700 | 2,800 | 41.8 |
| 1913 | Columbus..... | Wis. | 2,523 | 53.2 | 53,696 | 6,499 | 2,600 | 40.0 |
| 1910 | Jefferson..... | Wis. | 2,582 | 75.0 | 51,524 | 6,208 | 2,560 | 41.2 |
| 1915 | Prairie du Chien..... | Wis. | 3,179 | | 78,400 | 5,418 | 2,800 | 51.7 |
| 1913 | Fort Atkinson..... | Wis. | 3,300 | 51.0 | 73,424 | 9,156 | 3,600 | 39.3 |
| 1910 | Ripon..... | Wis. | 3,811 | 65.2 | 103,101 | 12,923 | 6,082 | 47.1 |
| 1913 | Sparta..... | Wis. | 3,973 | 55.0 | 98,599 | 11,047 | 4,400 | 39.8 |
| 1911 | Oconto..... | Wis. | 5,629 | 57.5 | 125,000 | 19,031 | 9,800 | 51.5 |
| 1912 | Neenah..... | Wis. | 5,734 | 54.5 | 117,038 | 12,850 | 5,850 | 45.5 |
| 1916 | Merrill..... | Wis. | 8,689 | 47.0 | 200,000 | *30,415 | 11,000 | 36.2 |
| 1914 | Watertown..... | Wis. | 8,829 | 47.2 | 202,677 | 23,394 | 8,500 | 36.3 |
| 1915 | Brazil..... | Ind. | 9,340 | 70.0 | 128,383 | 18,987 | 6,361 | 33.0 |
| 1917 | Lincoln..... | Ill. | 10,892 | 43.0 | 215,000 | 29,850 | 9,651 | 32.4 |
| 1914 | Ashland..... | Wis. | 11,594 | 54.5 | 480,000 | 65,000 | 21,000 | 32.3 |
| 1911 | Janesville..... | Wis. | 13,894 | 54.0 | 250,000 | 38,724 | 15,800 | 40.8 |
| 1911 | Marinette..... | Wis. | 14,610 | 38.5 | 326,759 | 47,630 | 14,800 | 31.1 |
| 1911 | Beloit..... | Wis. | 15,125 | 48.0 | 289,512 | 41,565 | 14,687 | 35.3 |
| 1915 | Beloit..... | Wis. | 15,125 | 48.0 | 402,000 | 60,323 | 16,659 | 27.6 |
| 1915 | Appleton..... | Wis. | 16,773 | 45.0 | 525,000 | 50,616 | 19,000 | 37.5 |
| 1912 | Eau Claire..... | Wis. | 18,310 | 48.5 | 314,987 | *46,655 | 15,000 | 32.2 |
| 1913 | Green Bay..... | Wis. | 25,236 | 48.7 | 683,229 | *88,665 | 34,000 | 39.8 |
| 1910 | Madison..... | Wis. | 25,531 | 49.6 | 650,000 | 62,260 | 20,000 | 32.1 |
| 1914 | Sheboygan..... | Wis. | 26,398 | 46.0 | 507,739 | 69,176 | 27,500 | 39.8 |
| 1912 | Superior..... | Wis. | 40,384 | 46.0 | 838,242 | 110,146 | 27,900 | 25.3 |

* Estimated.

Decisions of Public Service Commission of Pennsylvania regarding fire protection

| YEAR OF RE- PORT | NAME OF COMPANY | POPULA- TION SERVED | VALUE OF PLANT | GROSS REVENUE | PER CENT OF GROSS FROM FIRE | PER HYDRANT | PER MILE | REVENUE FROM FIRE | EQUIVALENT PER HYDRANT |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|---|-------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1916 | Beaver Valley | 40,000 | \$985,000 | \$135,950 | 18.5+ | \$7 | \$400 | \$25,000 | \$64.24 |
| 1917 | Portage | 4,000 | 132,520 | *8,935 | | 15 | 175 | | |
| 1918 | Portage | | | Increased to | 16.2 | 15 | 195 | 1,453+ | 51.91 |
| 1917 | Ohio Valley | 45,300 | 924,744 | 135,138 | 20.0 | 7 | 329 | 27,034 | 67.92 |
| 1917 | West'md | 60,955 | 1,100,000 | 156,520 | 17.3- | | | 26,500 | |
| 1917 | West'md In- creased | | 1,125,000 | 158,270 | 17.1- | 9 | 485 | 26,500 | 97.07 |
| 1918 | Spring- field Consol. | Approx. | 8,251,420 | 899,732 | 18.9- | 7 | 355 | 169,893 | 137.45+ |
| | Spring- field Consol. | | | Including Private Fire | 20.0+ | | | 180,130 | |

* \$8,935, within the borough and \$16,113 total. The decision referred only to revenue from fire protection within the city but the Commission found that the total revenue within the borough should amount to \$12,881, to give a fair return.